

Remarks

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 15 and 18-30 are pending in the application. Claim 15 and 18-28 have been rejected. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Claims 29 and 30 have been allowed and have been rewritten in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to independent claims 29 and 30 are not narrowing and are not made for reasons relating to patentability.

Patentability of Claims 15 and 18-28 over Wachel in view of Hill under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Action rejects claims 15 and 18-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. No. US 2004/0148448 to Wachel ("Wachel") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,578,103 to Hill et al. ("Hill"). These rejections are respectfully traversed. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims in their present form are allowable over the cited art. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. (See MPEP § 2142.)

Motivations to combine or modify references must come from the references themselves or be within the body of knowledge in the art. (See MPEP § 2143.01.)

Claims 15 and 18-28

Independent claim 15 is directed to a high-density server, and recites in part:

multiple power supply cards physically and electrically connected to the midplane board wherein the multiple processor cards, the multiple network control cards and the multiple power supply cards are connected to the midplane board via CompactPCI connectors and wherein the at least some of the multiple processor cards have pinout definitions the mirror image of J1 CompactPCI front side pinout definitions (emphasis added).

For example, the application describes at page 7, paragraph [0029]:

The processor card pinout is the mirror image of the pinout of traditional CPC1 front side processor cards and of the pinout for the expansion cards, allowing the unique back side positioning of the processor cards (emphasis added).

The Action rejects the claim based on Wachel in view of Hill. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant respectfully submits that Wachel does not teach or suggest “wherein the at least some of the multiple processor cards have pinout definitions the mirror image of J1 CompactPCI front side pinout definitions,” as noted in the Action.

Applicant respectfully submits that Hill does not cure the deficiencies of Wachel. As the Action notes, Hill describes a “backplane 170 [that] is configured in such a way that CompactPCI boards 130 (FIG. 1) devoid of J4 connectors are still compatible with the backplane 170” (see col. 3, lines 47-52). However, one of ordinary skill in the art could not be expected to surmise the claimed arrangement of “wherein the at least some of the multiple processor cards have pinout definitions the mirror image of J1 CompactPCI front side pinout definitions” from the description of CompactPCI boards devoid of J4 connectors in Hill. Furthermore, Hill is understood to describe nothing relating to mirror image pinout definitions, much less “wherein the at least some of the multiple processor cards have pinout definitions the mirror image of J1 CompactPCI front side pinout definitions,” as recited in claim 15.

Additionally, Applicant cannot find in either Wachel or Hill a suggestion to modify or combine the references to result in the claimed arrangement.

Because the cited references, both alone and in combination, fail to teach or suggest the combination of elements recited in independent claim 15, Applicant believes that the claim is not subject to a 103(a) rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of independent claim 15 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 18-28 depend directly or indirectly from their parent claim 15, and are allowable for at least the reasons recited above in support of their parent claim 15. They are also independently patentable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of dependent claims 18-28 be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 29 and 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 29 and 30 have been rewritten in independent form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claim objections should be removed.

Request for Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite prosecution. Applicant submits the foregoing formal Amendment so that the Examiner may fully evaluate Applicant's position, thereby enabling the interview to be more focused.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

Conclusion

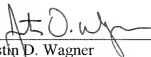
The claims in their present form should now be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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